



Committee for Women in Mathematics

Rennes, wednesday 30 march 2016,

Dear colleagues and friends from Poland,

It would have been a great pleasure for me to be with you for the launching of your Polish Association for Women in Mathematics but I had unfortunately other commitments on that day.

The IMU Committee for Women in Mathematics (CWM) I am chairing was created by the International Mathematical Union Executive in March 2015.

CWM has a website <http://www.mathunion.org/cwm/> whose aim is to provide an internationally based resource for women mathematicians. I invite you to consult it on a regular basis and to send us relevant information.

During our first meeting on September 4-5, 2015, reports of activities for women in mathematics from the various parts of the world were presented. In the last two years, women in mathematics have come together to launch meetings and network in many countries. Your initiative in Poland is part of this general tendency and we appreciate it enormously.

Helping establishing and supporting such networks at the continental or subcontinental level especially in developing or emerging parts of the world such as Asia, Latin America and Africa is our most important goal from now until ICM Rio 2018 and our budget is used mainly for this purpose. In 2015-2016 various initiatives are going to be supported in Africa (Kenya, Tunisia, Senegal), in Asia (India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan), and Latino-America (Brazil, Colombia, Mexico). Due to our limited budget we did not support very interesting projects in other parts of the world. CWM is also organizing a pre-ICM 2018 event: (WM)² - World Meeting for Women in Mathematics, in Rio, Brazil.

CWM believes that the constitution of national or regional associations for Women in Mathematics is very crucial, as well as the coordination between new initiatives and already established networks or committees such as European Women in Mathematics, or the Women in Mathematics Committee of the European Mathematical Society.

On behalf of the IMU Committee for Women in Mathematics I congratulate you for your new association and wish you the best success.

Hani-Françoise Roy